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THE CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT

1705–1807

ILLUSTRATIVE DOCUMENTS

At the request of his brethren on the Commission on Parochial Archives, the compiler has been examining the manuscript sources of our history. In the manuscripts belonging to the General Convention, and elsewhere, he has found material of great value which has never been published. A selection from his transcripts is made in these pages.

JOSEPH HOOPER.

June, 1906

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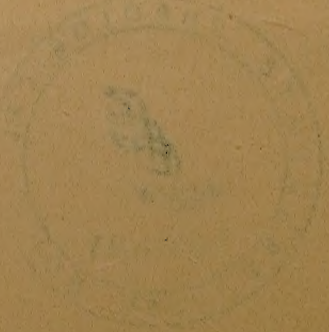

From the Library of
Rev. W. S. Perry.

THE EARLIEST SERVICES OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

THE REV. GEORGE MUIRSON, 1705–1708
THE REV. JOHN SHARPE, 1710

LORD CORNBURY TO THE SECRETARY.

NEW YORK Oct 6th 1704

Sir

I trouble you with these few lines to acknowledge the receipt of the printed accᵗ of the Propagⁿ of the Gospel in forⁿ Parts, and I must acquaint you that there are some mistakes, in that page for example it is said "Long Island belonging to New England whereas in truth Long Island belongs to New York & it is said Rhode Island belonging to New York,—whereas Rhode Island is a charter government of itself. I must further acquaint you that there is no Chʰ building nor built at Shrewsbury nor Delaware Falls. We have a Chh at Burlington & I hope next Spring we shall have one at Salem—another at Middletown in Monmouth County & another at Elizabeth Town.

I do not trouble you with so large an account now as I would have done & as I will do for the future because the Bearer hereof Mʳ Muirson is able to give very good acct of all matters here. he was sent over to be Schoolmaster at Albany but there being no allowance yet settled for a schoolmʳ there & there being 50£ a year settled here by Act of Assembly for a schoolmʳ in this City I stopped him here for some time and the rather because when he arrived here there were several youths going to be sent to Boston whᶜʰ I thought it would be better to prevent by stopping Mr Muirson here. he is now going to England in hopes of being admitted into Holy Orders. I should be glad that he might be dispacht hither early in the Spring

I am Sir your very humble Servᵗ

CORNBURY.

[General Convention, New York Manuscripts, I, p. 58.]

21437

Rev^d^ M^r^. Vesey to the Secretary.

New York Oct 26^th^ 1704

Dear Sir

* * * * *

* * * * *

M^r^ Geo Muirson a sober, ingenious youth designs God willing to receive Holy Orders and is recommended by my L^d^ Cornbury & the Rever^d^ Clergy convened at N York candidate for the office of catechist in this City. Only here being a great number of youths and of Indian and negro Slaves who need Instruction, hoping that the Soc^y^ will take it into their pious consideration and allow him 50£ per ann. And for his farther encouragement to assist him in all offices (being of an inferior constitution) do promise to allow him £50 per ann out of my small income which is 160£ p^r^ Ann of this Money.

* * * * *

* * * * *

Your sincere friend & Servant in Christ

Will^m^ Vesey.

[New York Manuscripts, I, pp. 56, 57.]

New York Rye Nov 21 1705

Much honored Sr

* * * *

I have lately been in y^e^ Government of Connecticut where I observe some people well affected to y^e^ Church. for those that are new come to my parish on Sabbath days so that I am assured an Intinerant Missionary might do great service in that Province. Some of their Ministers have privately told me that had we a Bishop among us they would conform & receive Holy Orders, from w^ch^ as well as on all y^e^ Continent y^e^ necessity of a Bishop will plainly appear

Yours &c &c

Geo Muirson

[New York Manuscripts, I, pp. 81–82.]

Inhabitants of Stratford in Connecticut Colony to Colonel Nicholson.

Stratford Oct 26th 1706

Honored Sir,

Your life and happy return to these parts is a ground of universal joy to all the American part of the English Empire, the good designs you have now under management by how much more universal and so valuable in their fruits than any tho great and heretofore do so much the more oblige us all to congratulate your happy arrival. We poor distressed Churchmen of Stratford therefore moved with the sense of our duty as interested in the common benefit of intermingling ourselves in the public joy give thanks to Almighty God who has inspired you with those great and good designs preserved you hitherto in your proceedings. In the next place give thanks to yourself who under her gracious Majesty never to be forgotten have undertaken this dangerous fatigue and shall ever join our prayer with the common prayer of multitudes whose father you have been by merit that God Almighty would crown as this so all your generous undertakings with good success. Great Sir, we have heard of your generous offer for Mr. Muirson's first years labour in the Ministry among us had it pleased God to continue him, & rejoice that we have this opportunity to give our hearty thanks for your benevolence to us therein; that, to your other Acts is nothing yet besides the obligation it lays upon us it adds a real lustre to your name and truly magnifies the character of your beneficence Had this been done to the Captives you redeemed, the Provinces you have governed, the army you council, were it the utmost of your generous contributions to the welfare of the English in Europe, Africa and America were nothing; but when you like the Sun move in these superior Orbs with proportionable influences to them yet not be confined to them but shine and enlighten us in the shady valleys of Obscurity, this makes you to be truly magnus in minimis

We lament to this day our loss in the death of the pious Mr Muirson, hope that Honorable Society will remember us anew. shall beg your intercessions as God gives opportunity in the meantime shall be heartily glad to see you in Stratford if your

occasions lead this way, that we may express the cordial love and humble service of.— Honored Sir

Yours &c

TIM TITHARTON } DAN SHELTON
RIC. BLACKLATH } ARCH DUNCQZ

[Manuscripts in General—unpaged.]

NOTE:—The date should be 26th May, 1709, for Mr. Muirson died in October 1708.

The proper names of the signers are

Timothy Titharton Daniel Shelton
Richard Blacklath Archibald Dunlap.

COL[l] HEATHCOTE TO THE SECRETARY (Extract).

MANOR OF SCARSDALE

25th January 170 9/10

Worthy Sir,

The poor people of Stratford have ever since M[r] Muirson's death kept sending me abundance of melancholy Letters filled with sad stories of their misfortunes and complaints of their great wants in having the comfort of God's ordinances administered to them and most of the missionaries (there being none at Rye) living at too great a distance, and not being able to undertake the journey, we got leave of the L[t] Governor to spare the Chaplain M[r] Sharp whom I accompanied into Connecticut, to the unspeakable comfort and satisfaction of the members of the Church of England in that Colony who remain very constant and steady notwithstanding that the warm Independents have by Imprisonment and many other severities endeavoured to suppress them. I hope the Society will be pleased to take their unhappy circumstances into consideration for nothing could be done more truly to propagate the Gospel than by sending a missionary into that Colony where to the great scandal of the Christian Religion as well as to the danger of men's souls, the Ordinances of God are so strangely neglected and contemned In some of their Towns amongst 100 sober people, not ten will be admitted to the Sacrament, and vast numbers are denied

Baptism. I am told that in a Town called Newhaven within 14 miles of Stratford there are near 1000 unbaptized, now if it be a good work and a great service to God and his Church to bring the Indians to the knowledge of our holy faith, and to happiness benefit and blessing of partaking of Baptism and the Lord's Table it must be equal if not a greater service to make those of our own blood and nations partakers of those great blessings, and as such who stop and hedge up the way to God's altar will undoubtedly have a great deal to answer for, so I am firmly of opinion that those who are entrusted with funds given by pious and good people for propagating the Gospel, can't better answer the end and intent of the Donors than to open the way to God's Holy Ordinances by doing what lies in their power that sober and well meaning people may not want the opportunity of receiving the same

Worthy Sir,

Yours &c

Caleb Heathcote

[General Convention, New York Manuscripts, I, pp. 204–205.]

Letters of Colonel Heathcote and the Rev. Mr. Muirson concerning services held in Connecticut will be found in *Connecticut Church Documents, New York,* 1863, pp. 8-12, 17-31, 35, 36; Dr. Robert Bolton's *History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Westchester County, New York,* 1855, pp. 151, 157-160, 165, 167, 173, 178.

FOR THE YEAR 1710

* * *

6 Epiphany Day Fryday I left York & went as far as New Rochelle on my way to Stratford where I was sent for by the members of the Church of England there to preach I had a fall from my horse but thank God was not hurt

* * * * *

12 set out from Coll. Heathcots w[t] him wee lay at Maj[r] Sellecks at Stratford that night

13 at Norwalk we lay at Beldens

14 To Fairfield wee were met by M[r] Johnston M[r]. Dunlap & M[r] Blacklath they went to Stratford that night.

15 I preached twice forenoon Psl 31 26 p m Rom 2-4[1]

16 Dined at M[rs] Edwards Choice of Vestry & Churchwardens

17 Dined at M[r] Blacklaths

18 Dined at M[r] Dunlaps it rained. . at night hee Mr. Dunlap and I rode to Fairfield & lay at M[r] Lewes I was very wett

JANUARY 1710

19 I went to visit the Deputy Gov[r] & Mr Web the Min[r] of the place. I preached at M[r] Lewis's & lay that night at M[r] Sturges' a publick house Coll Heathcote Dunlap lies w[t] Johnston

20 Coll Heathcote went away & wee came to Stratford back

21 stayed at home all day

22 I preached twice & gave notice of the Sacr[t] Tex 1 Cor 15 8 v both parts

23 Visited M[r] Pitman M[r] Laborie & M[rs] Edwards Mr Bridge received

24 snowed hard visited M[r] Nisbet

25 M[r] Bridge went forward to Rye I went to M[r] Janes

26 to Longhill. preached Eph 5, 15-16 a congregation of 200 the greater part whereof had never heard the Common Prayer

27 Baptised Isaac Styles the first Man Child born in the Colony of Connecticut a man of 80 years of age visited one

[1] Mr. Sharpe indicates the Sundays by = above and below the date.

Zachary a sick person, dined at L^t^ Johnson, and returned to Stratford

28 I staid at home at study I recovered my illness

29 I preached A M Math 6 & adminred the Sacr^t^ to 25 communicants p m preached Luke 10 2 v Christened three Children

30 K.C. Martyr'd I preached Rom 13-1. v p m visited

31 I bought my horse darling set out at noon & preached at Stratford Math 11 34 I rode to Greens farms & lay at Simeon Cowles

FEBRUARY

1 Came to Norwalk there met M^r^ Bridge wee came thence in company w^t^ the Deputy Gov^r^ & M^r^ Davenport to Stamford

FEBRUARY 1710

2 Candlemas to Snowfield's it rained very hard here M^r^ Dunlap overtook us Wee rode in the rain to Coll Heathcotes y^t^ night

[Manuscript Diary of the Rev John Sharpe, Chaplain to the Forces in the Fort of New York 1704–1717; now in the archives of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.]

Baptized in my voyage to Stratford, Jan^y^ 1710

Jan^y^ 15 Hannah the wife of James Dickson at Stratford adult.

19 Sarah the wife of George Wood at Fairfield ad.

26 at Long Hill Dorcas the grand daughter of Isaac Styles ad

Elias the son of Sam^ll^ Davis, and Pheebe the daughter of Jonathan Gilbert Children.

27 Isaac Styles aged ab^t^ 80

29 at Stratford W^m^ son of W^m^ Smyth Joshua the son of John Morey & Elizabeth the daughter of Archibald Dunlap.

[Register of the Rev. John Sharpe in his Manuscript Diary.]

For an allusion to the services of Mr. Sharpe see An Account of the Sufferings of the Members of the Church of England at Stratford, *Connecticut Church Documents*, I, p. 42.

VOLUNTARY CONVENTIONS AND BENEFACTIONS TO SEVERAL PARISHES.

1762–1766.

ST GEORGE TALBOT TO THE SECRETARY.

NEW YORK Septemb^{r} 10-1762

Rev^{d} Sir

I received your favor of the 24th of Feb^{y} last in July. I congratulate your appointment to so Honorable a Post as Secretary to the Incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign parts; & employed upon the most pious & benevolent design, and Blessed be the Almighty who is the giver of every good & perfect who hath enabled me to be instrumental in furthering their pious designs. I have taken no small pains since they have done me the Honor to make me a member of their Honorable Board to acquaint myself with the Religious state of the people both in this Province & sundry Towns in the Western part of Connecticut Governm^{t} as well as this, deserving my notice and charity I have this summer given to Saint John Church at Stamford £100 more to be immediately laid out in finishing the Church, and silver plate for the Communion Service, I have also given £100 to the Church of Norwalk to purchase Land in the Society's name to add to that Glebe, the Deed to be recorded and sent over to the Venerable Society.

I have also given £200 to Trinity Church at Fairfield for the same use I have also given £100 to Derby for the same use, all in the Society's name. A more particular account I judge you may receive from the several missionaries that doth receive them— in October last I desired the Rev^{d} M^{r} Dibblee of Stamford who is indefatigable in his endeavours to serve the Interest of true Religion and our Holy Church, whose services I find universally acceptable, and his life agreeable to his Public Character, to meet me at St. George's Church at North Castle, the second Sunday in Oct^{r} last, and was surprised both at the number and devout behaviour of the People, for the church, could not contain them, the particular service he

performed beyond doubt he will transmit to you, if he hath not done it. He accompanied me from thence to Bedford, Coompond, Peach Kills, Croton, & returned by the White Plains. The state of Religion I truly found deplorable enough, for excepting Bedford, they were as sheep without a shepherd a prey to various sectaries & enthusiastic lay teachers, there are many well wishers and professors of the Church among them which doth not hear the Liturgy in several years. The worthy Mr Wetmore hath made the same Tour with me. Nay larger even to Fish Kills (there I offered them £1,000 to purchase a Glebe and a House & he agreed for the same if they would have done their part, & subscribe £40 per annum to administer support, since they have had the concurrence of Society in their favour, but zeal is too cold there) I think it would be happy if an Itinerant Missionary could be fixed at North Castle, for when even the vacancy at Rye shall be supplied as the Rev^{d} Mr. Punderson when I was at Darby in June last, said that if he had a call to Rye he would gladly accept it (with the liberty of the venerable society) As I now know that he is called & hath accepted it, The Rev^{d} Mr. Lamson preached the Convention Sermon to the great satisfaction not only of the Brethren but myself, and I think they are all a sett of worthy Pious Sober Clergymen, and are usefully employed in their several missions. I have proposed to Mr Dibblee to take another Tour to the former places and to visit some others who hath requested the favour of me, for the which the Rev^{d} Messrs Lamson & Leaming hath also consented to take a tour with me. for I cannot be easy to see such numbers of People live without God in the world, for where there is no regard to Sunday, to the Public Worship of Almighty God, there is scarce any sense of Religion among a People & their moral state is soon as deplorable as their Religious, after which a more particular account of these places, their number, their particular professions, distances each place from the other and from any Clergymen in Holy Orders of our Church, I shall lay before the Venerable Board together with my humble Opinion what ought in Charity, to be done for the support of their spiritual wants. My mite yearly whilst Life by the Blessing of the Almighty, shall be always moving.

[Manuscripts of the General Convention, New York, II, pp. 308–311.]

ST GEO TALBOT TO THE SECRETARY.

BARN ISLAND July 1, 1763.

Rev[d] Sir,

Agreeable to my last intimation and from a zeal to promote the interest of pure and undefiled Religion, I have again taken another journey into Connecticut Colony, and attended Convention at Ripton, about 73 miles distance. The Rev[d] Dr Johnson being requested to preach delivered an excellent pathetical spirited sermon, adapted to the occasion and acceptable to the clergy, (and all who had the pleasure to hear him) pressing them to the utmost Fidelity and Diligence in doing the Duties of their respective Cures. Twelve missionaries were present, who appear to be an ornament to their ecclesiastical profession and very usefully employed, having had the opportunity to acquaint myself with the state of most of their respective Missions. 4 or 5 promising young Gentlemen candidates for Holy Orders were present, M[r] Kneeland, Reader of Divine Service and Sermons among the destitute people at Huntington on Long Island in the Province of New York, Mr. Hubbard of Guilford, and Mr. Jervis of Middletown in Connecticut. I have judged Guilford worthy and a proper object of my Charitable notice and have engaged to bestow £200 New York currency on that Church for their further encouragement, conditionally that the Venerable Board is pleased to appoint them a Missionary & which favour they flatter themselves with hopes and expectations of the said money to be paid when they have a settled Mission to purchase Glebe Lands and made over to the Society for the use of their Missionary for the time being &c.

I have found at Stamford already the good fruit and effect of my Charitable Encouragement of the Church there, in seeing their Church decently finished and their number increasing, which excites envy and jealousy of their dissenting neighbors who are in general alarmed at the increasing, & flourishing state of our Holy Church wherever it is propagated. A late malcontent at Stamford hath endeavoured to disturb the Peace and unity of that Church and very ill used their worthy Minister who hath sacrificed his family interests to serve them, but he hath lost his influence & in revenge forsaken the Church, but the Wardens and Vestry assure me that neither his Minister

nor Bretheren have given any Ground of Offence. I have ordered the Church of Stamford, to lay out £300 in Glebe Land that lieth very convenient in the Town with a good house thereon, which is now offered on sale, for Mr Dibble's successors to be made over to the Society as formerly mentioned, for the use of their Missionary for the time being after the decease of myself and housekeeper, the present rent to be employed in paying me my Interest as reserved when first bestowed. On my return from Connecticut, I desired Mr Dibblee to accompany me to Salem where he preached the first Sunday in Trinity, to a large congregation, notwithstanding it was a very rainy day, too many to be well accommodated in a private House, and gave the Communion to about 30 persons who behaved very devoutly, there they have built & have almost covered a Church, this is in the Province of New York, which People Mr Dibblee hath taken the principal care of for several years. This Church at Salem is about 4 miles from Ridgbury, to the West, and 17 miles from Ridgfield where they have raised a Church about 45 feet by 30, and are now covering it. Ridgfield is about 25 miles from Norwalk and in Mr Leaming's Mission, there they have a church already Built and in a good way of finishing. Ridgbury is newly made a Parish out of Danbury and Ridgfield, and if they may be made so happy as to be made a mission (they lay very contiguous to be united together and as Ridgbury is most convenient for their minister to reside at and to serve those Churches—I have for their encouragement engaged to give them £150 New York currency (for the benefit of a Minister) to purchase a Glebe to serve those Churches. I think a Missionary is much wanted among them. they have by advice engaged a modest worthy young man to read services, viz Mr Clark, whom they and I wish that it might be the attention of the Government to make provision for the regular establishment of the Doctrine Disciplin and Worship of our Holy Church in the Colonies for rectifying their religious mistakes, and securing their Fidelity, which I think is previously necessary to the propagating of the Gospel amongst the Heathen, and to render that successfull. Mr Beach tells me, that as thro age and Bodily infirmities, he is obliged to remove his family to Newtown. where the greatest Burden of Duty as soon as the inconveniences which he is thereby put to is

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removed, he shall be willing to resign half his salary from the Society to provide for Reading, Danbury &c.

And as the Church increases in other missions I hope there may be an Increase of Missionaries without any increase of charge to the Board, and am frankly of the opinion that with the advantage of my Benefactions, the Church of Rye may be able with the salary the Government hath settled to maintain their Minister if the present salary from the Society of £50 be withdrawn which was partly agreed to by the late worthy Mr Wetmore whom the Parishioners treated according to his merit, (the people are wealthy & have taken very irregular steps since the death of that worthy missionary.)

At North Castle about 18 miles from Rye there is great want of a Missionary. the Church there is within 5 miles of Bedford & about 7 or 8 miles off Crompond there is a great many families of our holy Church which hath applied to me, & if New Rochel was joined to East and West Chester, I am humbly of opinion that Church might well be supplied, as it is not 4 miles from Church to Church. The French protestants understand English very well. And it is also my humble opinion that Col. Frederick Philip's Estate is able to build several Churches and to settle 200 acres of Land to every one of them, & that he and his Tenants are able to maintain ministers without any assistance from the Venerable Board, &c

And it is thought by Dr Johnson & myself and many others that the two Catechists one in New York, the other in Philadelphia to the Negroes might well be supported on some other footing in those two oppulent cities, both are able to support them and free schools, but whilst they can have it gratis they chuse it. As the Venerable Board hath refused to establish a mission at Flushing (I informed Mr. Treadwell before he went over for Orders) I have withheld my designed benefaction to that place until the pleasure of the Society be further known, as that mission is well supported as long as they continue united with Jamaica it being only 4 miles from Church to Church. I only add that Mr Beach hath told me that his parishioners are wealthy and can maintain a minister without the Society's bounty should it be withheld. (Norwalk is a rich Town and very large.) I am under an embarrasmt to know how I shall secure to my heirs the Venerable Society my lands

at my decease, since if then sold they cannot receive the money arising from the sale, I do not understand whether that clause in the abstract extendeth to America, I shall be glad to be informed to that &c. I am willing to secure it whilst I am living if I cannot at my death. The place where I dwell is a very valuable & pleasant situation, few or none exceeds it. it being seven miles from the City by Land or by Water, I have been offered £3000 for it, prompt pay^{t}, and to enjoy it as long as I should live, only the purchaser would reserve a room in the House in Summer &c. Whilst it shall please the Almighty to prolong my days, I shall make it my study and endeavour to promote his Glory and the well being of his Church in concurrence with the pious design of the Venerable board to whom I present my most dutiful regards and with an humble compliment to yourself, I subscribe rev^{d} Sir

Your very humble Servant

St Geo Talbot.

[Manuscripts of the General Convention, New York, II, pp. 315–322.]

Mr Auchmuty to the Secretary (Ext.)

N. York Oct. 24, 1760

* * * * *

I am but just returned from a visit to the Clergy in Connecticut; who held a voluntary Convention at Stratford last week. At their earnest request I preached the Convention sermon; & informed myself of the true state of the Church in that Government. I shall in some future letter take the liberty to mention some few of the hardships the established Church of the nation there, labors under among a perverse & obstinate malicious set of people.

[Manuscripts of the General Convention, New York, II, pp. 410.]

For a notice and list of the voluntary Conventions see *Records of Convocation,* New Haven 1904, pp. 5-10, 30.

LETTERS OF THE REV. DANIEL FOGG, OF POMFRET, CONNECTICUT, TO THE REV. SAMUEL PARKER, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

1783–1784.

Dear Sir,

I did not receive yours of the 12th untill 29rh of June. I began to think it had fallen into the hands of some villain. Therefore wrote a line to Mr Saltonstall, desiring him not to pay the money unless the order was presented by me. In answer to this Mr S wrote me it was not in his power to answer the order at present, but says he desired his Friend Mr Wheelwright to draw upon him for thirty pounds if it was convenient, which, he would exert himself to pay, but the sum Mr W. has drawn for will much distress him to pay at this time.— indeed he says it is impossible. I wrote him that I would wait a month or two, if he thought he could pay me in that time.

I am very sorry I was gone before you got to Mr Malbone's but there had been so much foul weather the latter part of the week before, that I did not expect to have the pleasure of your Company. & when I was in Boston you told me you would write me word if you concluded to go. these circumstances I hope may be some excuse for my want of Politeness, especially with a Person of your Benevolence. & I dare say the pleasure you would have taken in the journey would not have been very great, as it was very warm, neither would it have been much increased at our arrival at Br Viets Palace, for it is situate between two horrid mountains & not much larger than your Stable. There was ten clergymen met. The Connecticut Clergy have done already everything in their power in the matter you were anxious about. would write you the particulars, if I knew of any safe opportunity of sending this letter, but as I do not I must defer it till I do

best compliments to Mrs P.

conclude most sincere Friend & Brother

D. Fogg.

Pomfret, July 2d 83

Revd Mr Parker

Pomfret 14th July '83

Dear Sir,

I wrote you a few lines the 2d inst., by an uncertain conveyance in which I attempted to excuse myself by throwing the blame upon you, for not waiting for you, till the time you mentioned. I now plead guilty & beg your forgiveness I likewise mentioned that the Connecticut Clergy had done all in their power respecting the matter you were anxious about; but they keep it a profound secret even from their most intimate Friends of the laity. The matter is this—after consulting the Clergy in New York, how to keep up the succession,— They unanimously agreed to send a Person to England to be consecrated Bishop for America, & pitched upon Dr Seabury as the most proper Person for this purpose, who sailed for England the beginning of last month, highly recommended by all the Clergy in New York & Connecticut, &c, & if he succeeds he is to come out as Missionary for New London or some other vacant Mission, & if they will not receive him in Connecticut or any other of the *States of America* He is to go to Nova Scotia. Sir Guy highly approves of the plan and has used all his influence in favor of it. The Clergy have even gone so far as to instruct Dr Seabury if none of the Regular Bishops of the Church of England will ordain him, to go down to Scotland and receive ordination from a Nonjuring Bishop. Please to let me know by Mr. Grosvenor how you approve of the plan, and whether you have receive any late accounts from England.

From your affect Brother

D. Fogg.

P. S. Mr Evan Malbone a particular Friend of Mr G. Malbone would be very much obliged to you if it would not be too much trouble to if you would procure him one Quintal of Fish & send it with Mr Godfrey Malbones This would likewise oblige your

Most affect Friend

D. F.

superscribed: Revd Samuel Parker

Boston.

Favored by Mr. Grosvenor

Dear Sir

Your letter of 17th ult I received soon after date, but that of 9th came to hand last evening. I have just returned home from New London & have settled the affair with Mr Saltonstall to my satisfaction & have inclosed your receipt, & assure you, kind Sir, that I have a most grateful sense of the very great attention you have paid to my small affairs, & sincerely wish that it may ever be in my power to make an adequate return. . Mr. Malbone is very much obliged to you for the trouble you have given yourself about the Fish & particularly desired me to make his compliments acceptable in which he is joined by his Lady & Niece.

I am very glad that the conduct of the Connecticut Clergy meets with your approbation in the main. Dr Seabury's being a refugee was an objection which I made, but was answered they could not fix upon any other Person who they thought was so likely to succeed as he was & should he succeed & not be permitted to reside in any of the United States it would be an easy matter for any other gentleman, who was not obnoxious to the *powers that be*, to be consecrated by him at Halifax. And as to the objection of not consulting the Clergy in the other States, the time would not allow of it, & there was nobody to consult in the State of New York, for there is not one Clergyman there, except Refugees, and they were consulted! and in the State of Connecticut there is fourteen resident Clergymen & in your State and New Hampshire, you know how many there is, & you know there is no compulsion in the matter & you will be left to act as you please, either to be subject to him or not. As to the matter of his support that must be an after consideration.

Your Affect Friend and Brother

D. Fogg

Pomfret 1st August 83

Dear Sir

I expected to have set out this week on a visit to my Friends in New Hampshire, but could not conveniently get a Horse, my own having been lame all Summer but shall set out next Monday (Deo volente)

I was at Norwich about ten days ago, & Mr Tyler informed me that the Connecticut Clergy who met at Commencement. did not propose to meet the Southern Clergy at New York, as they expect Dr. Seabury will succeed in the Business. he went to London for, & at his return it will be time enough to revise our Liturgy. They however wrote by Mr Marshall one of the Brethren giving reasons for their Conduct. Mr Tyler likewise told me there was intelligence that we poor Missionaries were to be continued during our lives, but it is probable you know more about the matter than I do, & as I expect to see you on my return from the Eastward I need say no more than beg you to make my best compl^t acceptable to M^rs P. & Miss Nancy, & that I remain

Your sincere Friend & Brother

D. Fogg

Pomfret Sep^t 28. 84

Rev Mr. Parker.

superscribed:

Rev^d Samuel Parker

Boston

Favored by
Mr Brinley.

[Bishop Parker Correspondence, General Convention Archives.]

Extracts from the first three letters were printed in Connecticut Church Documents II, pp. 212, 213. These have been frequently printed since in many volumes on the organization of the American Church; notably in Dr. Beardsley's *Life of Bishop Seabury,* pp. 103-105. They have never before been printed in full. A comparison with the printed extracts will show many slight differences of punctuation and orthography and some omissions.

THE CHURCHMAN'S MAGAZINE.

1805–1807.

N. York Ap. 10, 1806

Rev & D[r] Sir

The enclosed communications are from a candidate for Orders at Elizabeth town N: Jersey, who tho' educated a Presbyterian has lately conformed to our Church. He is a young man of promising talent, & I trust his communications will be found worthy of respectful notice. You will allow me to express my humble judgment strongly in favour of the last number of the Magazine. Its matter is I conceive instructive, varied & interesting. The piece entitled *A Serious Question,* is a specimen of that warm & evangelical piety which cannot fail to do good

In haste

Y[r] sincere & affectionate f[d] & brother

J. H Hobart

superscribed: Rev. Tillotson Bronson

[Correspondence of the Rev. Dr. Tillotson Bronson. In possession of the Rev. Wm. A Beardsley, New Haven, Conn.]

Cheshire 19[th] June 1807

Rev[d] Sir

The Bishop and Clergy of Connecticut at their late meeting in Watertown, received your letter respecting the Magazine which they took into consideration, and appointed us a Committee to confer with the Printers and give you an answer. The business was afterward taken up in the Convention of Clergy and Laity, who passed a resolution expressive of their reluctance to part with the Magazine, and added one member to the Committee from that body. Thus appointed and authorized we proceed to the execution of our trust Having organized the Churchmans Magazine in this State and by our exertions brought it to that state of maturity which it has attained you will readily see we must be reluctant to resign it up to the care of others, however able and willing they may be.—After remunerating the Pub-

lishers for their expenses in the early progress of the work, it was intended to apply the surplus profits to the creation of a fund for some pious purposes; and we had began to entertain hope of seeing this business realised.— It therefore cannot be supposed that we should readily make a sacrifice of these hopes.

But if all these motives were out of the way, there is yet another of more weight. The Printers undertook the work and risked their property under the sanction of our patronage. Our sacred honour and faith are therefore pledged to them, and must not be forfeited without an effort in their favour. You suggest the idea of general good in favour of a removal. We do not think ourselves behind in a readiness to sacrifice to general good; but are not willing to sacrifice more than our share; and hence must insist on terms if ever we are brought to consent to a removal We are however sensible with you, that to attempt two publications of the kind would be hazarding both.— And however we may conceive ourselves to have the best right from being in possession of the ground; yet we have no hesitation to admit that in many respects your situation in the centre of communication is preferable to ours; and therefore however desirous we may be of retaining under our own immediate patronage a work which originated with us, yet for the general good we are authorised so consent to its removal, provided such terms can be made with the Printers as may satisfy them.— On this point we think proper to wait for specific propositions from you.

Thus have we with the utmost sincerity stated our minds to you, and we doubt not but that in the course of the negotiation we shall meet with the like sincerity from you

TILLOTSON BRONSON } Committee of
PHILO SHELTON } Convocation
BURRAGE BEACH
Com^te of Convention

superscribed:
Rev^d John H. Hobart, D. D.
No 16 Greenwich Street
New York
Postmarked: Bridgeport June 25

[Correspondence of Bishop Hobart, Archives of the General Convention.]

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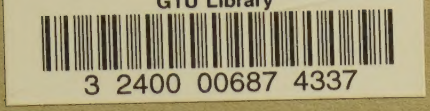

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